

ADVERTISE!

The Best Medium for
Advertising
in the Colony is
THE CHINA MAIL.
THE MOST POPULAR AND LEADING PAPER.

The China Mail.

ESTABLISHED 1845.

No. 11,609

號六廿月五年百九千一英

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, MAY 26, 1900.

日八廿月四年子庚

PRICE, \$2.50 Per Month.

Business Notices.

W. S. BAILEY & CO.,

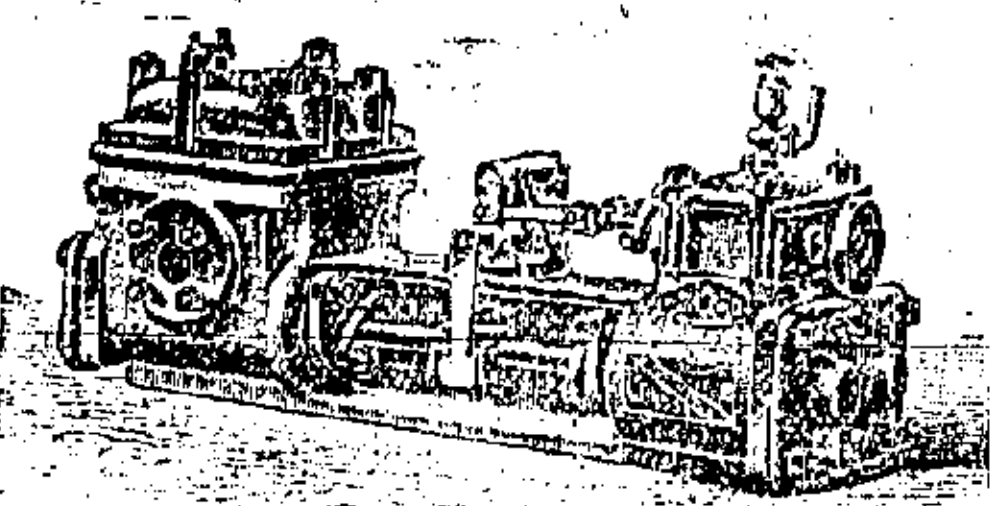
17, PRAYA CENTRAL

Engineers and General Merchants

SOLE AGENTS FOR CARTER'S DISINTEGRATORS FOR

GRINDING BARK, BEAN CAKE, SANDALWOOD, CORN,
Etc., Etc., Etc.

AMERICAN DRILLING MACHINES FOR HAND OR POWER.
DUPLEX AND DIRECT ACTING PUMPS FOR EVERY SERVICE.
SHIPS TELEGRAPHS, SPECIAL SIZES FOR LAUNCHES.



CHAMPION FORGES, LUBRICATORS,
INJECTORS, EJECTORS,
ENGINE OILS & SOLIDIFIED LUBRICANTS,
ENGINE AND BOILER MOUNTINGS,
ASBESTOS AND PUMP PACKINGS,
GENERAL STORES OF EVERY DESCRIPTION.

Peak Hotel.

CITY OFFICE,
7, DUBBEL STREET.

HOTEL, CRAIGIEBURN

CENTRALLY SITUATED AT PLUNKET'S
GAP, THE PEAK, 1,000 feet
above Sea Level and 500 yards from Tram
terminus. For Terms, etc.,
Apply to the MANAGER.
Telephone No. 56.

KWONG SANG YUEN & CO.,
MAKERS OF
MANILA CIGARS.

ONLY the best leaves, selected by our
special Representative in the Philip-
pines, are used in the Manufacture of these
Cigars.
Samples and Prices, post free, on Appli-
cation. Inspection cordially invited.
Factory, No. 12, Station Street North,
Yau-mun-Gi, Hongkong.

NOTICE.

HUMPHREYS ESTATE AND
FINANCE COMPANY, LIMITED.

THE CERTIFICATE No. 2,685, dated
18th January, 1900, of the Shares
numbered 10,201 to 10,250 in this Com-
pany, standing in the name of Mr. JAY
BUTTE of Melbourne, has been found
and if at the expiration of One month from
the date hereof, the above document be
not forthcoming, another Certificate will
be issued by the Company, and thereafter
no other will be acknowledged.
JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.
Hongkong, May 12, 1900.

NOTICE.

YOUNG AMERICAN, possessing
Automatic Power, Lenses, perfect
savage, for weaving, suitable, desires to
correspond with PRINCIPALS AND
GROWERS OF GRASSES for establish-
ing plant—State full particulars, money
required, how divided, inducements,
Answers confidential.—CRAIGIEBURN, H. GOOD-
WIN, Worcester, Mass., U.S.A.
Hongkong, May 17, 1900.

DOOLITTLE AND POLLOCK,
COMMISSION AGENTS,
50, LYNDHURST TERRACE,
HONGKONG.

AGENTS FOR JARDON'S PACKING COMPANY.
Hongkong, May 7, 1900.

HUNG TAI.

GENERAL STORE KEEPER.
AND
SUPPLIER OF COAL
FOR HOUSE PURPOSES, AND ALSO
CIGARS AND CIGARETTES,
TOBACCO.

No. 13, Elgin Road,
Kowloon.
Hongkong, May 16, 1900.

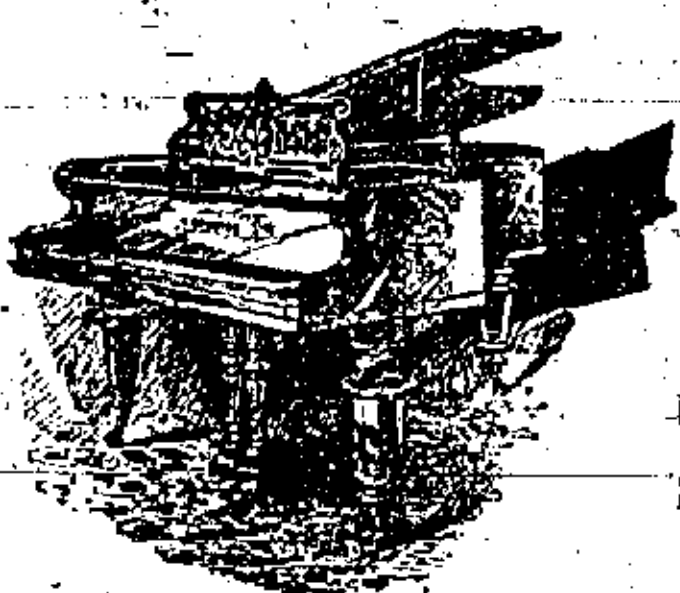
SWEETS! SWEETS! SWEETS!
CRAIGIEBURN'S CHOCOLATE CREAMS,
ALMONDS,
MACAROONS,
BUTTER SCOTCH, TOFFEEES, AT-
MOND ROCK, Etc.

H. RUTTONJEE,
5, D'Almeida Street,
22 and 23, Elgin Road, Kowloon.
Hongkong, May 4, 1900.

WASHING BOOKS.

(In English and Chinese.)
WASHERMAN'S BOOKS, for the use
of Ladies and Gentlemen, can now
be had at this Office.—Price, \$1 each.
CHINA MAIL OFFICE.

Robinson Piano Co., Ltd.



GRANDS OF HIGHEST CLASS,
BECHSTEIN, PLEYEL,
COLLARD, RACHALS,
HIRE AND TIME PAYMENT ACCEPTED.
MAGNIFICENT LOT NEW HAAKE PIANOS,
IS JUST ARRIVED.

Philip W. Heyman's 'KIRIN.'

CHOICEST DANISH

Grass Butter.

IN 1 AND 2 LB. PATENT TINS.

INCOMPARABLE!

To be had at all Retail Stores.

Apply to
A. BERG,
No. 1, Queen's Buildings.
Hongkong, May 25, 1900.

THE HONGKONG LAND INVEST- MENT AND AGENCY COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that at a
MEETING of the Board of Direc-
tors of the above Company, held at the Re-
gistered Office of the Company, Queen's
Road Central, Victoria, Hongkong,
Tuesday, the Twenty-Seventh day of March,
1900, the following resolutions were
passed:

1. That in pursuance of the provisions
of the Special Resolution passed at
an Extraordinary General Meeting
of the Company held on the 27th March
instant, and since duly registered,
the sum of \$1,250,000 be withdrawn
from the Reserve Fund, and be
carried as of the 2nd July next,
to the Credit of Capital Account,
each share being credited with a
sum of \$25 as paid up thirteen in
addition to the sum of \$5 now
standing to the credit of each share.
2. That the balance of \$25 per share
of the Capital of the Company be
called up, and that a Call
be and is hereby made of \$25 per
share upon all the shares of the
Company, and that the Share-
holders be requested to pay the
same to the Company's bankers,
the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank-
ing Corporation, at their premises,
Queen's Road Central, on or before
the 2nd day of July A.D. 1900.

Shareholders are hereby requested to pay
accordingly.
And Notice is also given that, in ac-
cording with Article 34 of the Company's
Articles of Association, interest will be
charged as from the 2nd day of July
1900, at the rate of 12 per centum per
annum, upon all Calls remaining unpaid
after the 2nd day of July 1900, up to the
actual date of payment of the same.

By Order of the Board,
A. SHELTON HOOPER,
Secretary.
Hongkong, March 27, 1900.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

THE HONGKONG TIMBER YARD,
(Established 1865),
has This Day been REMOVED from No.
68, Cross Street, Marine Lot 100, to Inland
Lot 1508, BOWLINGTON CANAL, near
Leighton Hill Road Bridge, and opposite
Lee Yuen Sugar Refinery.

L. MALLORY,
Hongkong, May 16, 1900.

'KIRIN.'

CHOICEST DANISH

Grass Butter.

IN 1 AND 2 LB. PATENT TINS.

INCOMPARABLE!

To be had at all Retail Stores.

Apply to
A. BERG,
No. 1, Queen's Buildings.
Hongkong, May 25, 1900.

W. HUTTON POITS,

Sole Agent for Hongkong.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

I HAVE This Day REMOVED my
Residence from No. 65, Praya East
to No. 7, Leighton Hill Road.
L. MALLORY.
Hongkong, May 16, 1900.

HONGKONG.

EYE-SIGHT.

NOTICE.
I am continuing my sight-testing Rooms
in Hongkong (at W. BREWER &
Co.) which during my absence will be in
charge of Mr. McIvor member Physic. A Re-
viewer of all GLASSES supplied my con-
sultants in the Far East is kept here and
of any kind of ordinary or special lenses can
be obtained.
REPAIRS A SPECIALITY. 1138

SANITARY BOARD.

OWNERS OF HOUSES Situated in the
Western Division of the City of Vic-
toria, who have not had their Premises
Lime-washed and Cleaned in accordance
with Law, are reminded that the period
during which the work should be finished
ends on the 30th day of June, 1900, and
the Sanitary Board being convinced of the
necessity of cleanliness in its efforts to
stamp out Plague, is determined to rig-
orously prosecute any owner in default after
the above-named date.

By Order of the Board,
G. A. WOODOCK,
Acting Secretary.
SANITARY BOARD OFFICE,
1st May, 1900.

NOTE.—The Western Division of the
City lies to the West of Morrison
and East Streets.

OLIVER'S FREEHOLD MINES.

LIMITED.

NOTICE is hereby given that a FINAL
CALL of \$9.00 per SHARE has
been made in respect of the 1st SHARE
in the above-named Company, and that
such Call is PAYABLE to the General
Managers, on the 17th day of July Next,
at the Office of the Company, 38 and 40,
Queen's Road Central.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.
Hongkong, May 16, 1900.

Business Notices.

BELL'S ASBESTOS EASTERN AGENCY, LIMITED,

A. PRAYA CENTRAL
(NEAR THE ENGINEERS' INSTITUTE).

PACKING OF EVERY DESCRIPTION,
BOILER COMPOSITION,
ENGINE AND OTHER OILS.



ALWAYS KEPT IN STOCK
ALL ARTICLES OF FIRST-CLASS QUALITY.

BRADLEY & Co., Managers.
JOHN BROWNELL, Superintendent.

FOR THE HOT WEATHER

SOFT-FRONTED COLORED SHIRTS,

very THIN and COOL.

HOSIERY & UNDERWEAR, BATHING
COSTUMES, DRAWERS, &c.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.



G. H. MUMM & CO'S

EXTRA DRY CHAMPAGNE,

Agents: SHEWAN, TOMES & Co.,

For Hongkong, Shanghai and Japan.

ASK FOR FERGUSON'S

P. & O.
SPECIAL LIQUEUR, 10 YEARS OLD
HIGHLAND WHISKY.



FERGUSON'S.

SPECIAL CREAM

BREADALBANE HIGHLAND WHISKY.

These are the finest productions of Scotland,
devoid absolutely of all deleterious matter.

THE CREME DE LA CREME OF
WHISKIES.

PURE AND MILD.

Sole Importers,
F. BLACKHEAD & Co.

MANILA CIGARS,

ALWAYS ON HAND THE BEST MARKS FROM
'LA INSULAR' AND 'LA PERLA DE ORIENTE' FACTORIES.
J. M. DE ZUNIGA,
No. 9, Queen's Road Central,
Entrance by Ice House Street, (New Victoria Hotel).

THE PHARMACY,

10 Queen's Road Central, Hongkong.

ENGLISH and FOREIGN PATENT MEDICINES. Prescriptions carefully
dispensed by a qualified CHEMIST. Special attention to FRENCH and other
FOREIGN FORMULAE.

SOMERVILLE'S 'EXPORT AND GLENDOUR' WHISKIES
PORTSOY HIGHLAND WHISKY (PURE MALT).
MANILA CIGARS.

Manager, RICHARD FLINT.

W. POWELL & Co.

Have pleasure in announcing that they are now showing
SUMMER NOVELTIES
in all Departments.

HATS & BONNETS, FLOWERS & FEATHERS,
BLOUSES & SHIRTS, COLLARS & CUFFS,
NEW BOWS & CHIFFONS,
FANCY MULLINS & SUNSHADES, &c., &c.

AN EARLY INSPECTION IS SOLICITED.

Sure Cure for Indigestion.

Johnson's

DIGESTIVE TABLETS.

VICTORIA DISPENSARY,
QUEEN'S ROAD.

Business Notices.

SIXTY YEARS WORLD-WIDE REPUTATION. FOR QUALITY, PURITY, EXCELLENCE!

Pronounced by the HIGHEST MEDICAL
AUTHORITIES the most
WONDERFUL PURIFIER
OF THE HUMAN BLOOD.

WILKINSON'S SARSAPARILLA

The Most Reliable
Remedy for
RHEUMATISM,
Eruptions,
and the BEST
PREVENTIVE
OF ILLNESS.

EVIDENCE OF SUPERIORITY.
"We cannot speak too highly of it.—Lancet."
"It is a most powerful purifier of the blood, and may be called
the 'gold standard' of the treatment of all blood diseases."
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the 'gold standard' of the treatment of all blood diseases."
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the 'gold standard' of the treatment of all blood diseases."

WILKINSON'S
SARSAPARILLA
CLEANS
THE BLOOD OF ALL
DANGEROUS
HUMOURS.

Sold by all Chemists and Storekeepers.
HONGKONG: DARTIN, CRICKSHANK & Co., A. S. WATSON & Co., &c.

THE SUMMER HAS COME

Watkins' Aerated Waters.

But the latter have come to stay.

OUR

SODA, POTASH, TONIC, RASPBERRYADE,
SARSAPARILLA, LEMON-SQUASH, SELTZER, LITHIA,
SANTHARIS, LEMONADE, BELFAST GINGER-ALE,
ZOEDONE, AND GINGER BEER

are second to none. Our machinery being of the very newest
design we are enabled to turn out the best article.

Watkins Limited.

GREEN ISLAND CEMENT COMPANY, LIMITED.

Portland Cement.

\$4.50 per Cask of 375 lb. net ex Factory.
\$2.80 per Bag of 250 lb. net ex Factory.

Factories—HONGKONG AND MACAO.

Glazed Stoneware, Drain Pipes and Fittings, Glazed
Paving Bricks and Tiles, Fire Bricks and Fire Clay.

FIRE CLAY WORKS.—DEEP WATER BAY, HONGKONG.

For further particulars, apply to

Shewan, Tomes & Co.,

GENERAL AGENTS.

ORGANS

A New consignment of American and
Japanese ORGANS.

Prices: \$30 to \$400,
MONTHLY PAYMENT ACCEPTED.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.,
MUSICAL DEPARTMENT.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

A FIRST-CLASS HOTEL, PROVIDED WITH EVERY COMFORT.
NEWLY-FURNISHED ROOMS.
TWO ELEVATORS.

NEW REFRIGERATING PLANT.
BEST QUALITY LIQUORS & PROVISIONS.

COTTAM & Co.,

FOR THE APPROACHING SUMMER, JUST ARRIVED
A NEW STOCK OF
CELLULAR SHIRTS, PRINT SOFT-FRONTED SHIRTS,
AND
WASHING TIES, Etc., Etc.

AQUARIUS

(Pure, Triple Distilled Water only used).
A PERFECT TABLE WATER.
An Aromatic Water of the Highest quality both from a Manu-
facturing and Sanitary point of view.

JOHN MURRAY, Ph.D., F.R.S. (Edin.), London.
(Past President of the Society of Public Analysts of Great Britain).
"St. James' Gazette, London."

CALDBECK, MACGREGOR & Co.,
Agents, Hongkong.
AQUARIUS COMPANY.

Hocks and Moselles.

LAUBENHEIMER
ORACHER
WIEBSTEINER
LIEBFRÄUMLICH

CALIFORNIA RIEBLING
Do. HOCK

YUEN WO
No. 155

H. PRICE & Co.,
D. GUNTER

CHUTNEY.

(Manufactured by the Firm of Irresponsible Chutney and Co.)

The Birthday Parade was a success in every way, and the marching past very fine indeed. It seemed strange, however, not to see the Volunteers taking part in the annual tribute to Her Most Gracious Majesty, and a good deal of talk among them has resulted from this omission. However, they had the chance this year of looking on at their leisure, a pleasure they have not enjoyed for some time.

When the news of the relief of Mafeking reached the Firm, Gussy, who has been remarkably quiet of late, locked himself up in his room from which, half-an-hour later, he emerged pale and dishevelled, to read the following record to the Senior.

They told us British men were boys, undisciplined and weak.

A general nation's soldier boys, the gut-

huts, ask of Africa's soldier boys: Have we no heroes there?

From Tuli down to Table Bay, we boys who die and dare.

And, Gussy, ask Kimberley: I ask Mafeking if they

Had more gallant British hearts, to hold the foe in play?

The world may sneer, the world may jeer, at England's soldier boys.

But, Gussy, they'll find should trouble rise, they are no pauper boys.

They got to hold a rifle, and their bayonet thrust is keen:

They fight for mankind's freedom and for country, God and Queen.

They do not carry Bibles in their haversacks, we know.

But fight as well as those who ostentatiously do so.

Their religion does not move them to psalm-singing all the day.

Yet, in his heart, he hears the Tommy's shout as he prays.

And with him rank those other ones who have Colonial sons.

Who've taught the enemy to fear their lances and their guns.

All honour to the brave who held through-out the dreaded siege.

With never thought of giving in, oh! not to their legs.

In English hearts, in English homes, we'll honour them to-day.

Those gallant, glorious British men who fought the deadly fray.

Why was there no *feu de joie* at the Birthday Parade this year? People went down to hear the banding and to see the late man, and they were grievously disappointed. Has all the gunpowder been used up in South Africa?

'Looked at' is perfectly correct in what he says, but one can hardly see how, with the limited space at our disposal, the position at Volunteer Headquarters is to be improved, unless, indeed, they build a platform out over the Cathedral grounds. Better accommodation at Headquarters buildings might certainly be obtained by the addition of another storey, but the parade ground will all have to remain strictly flat; and, should the force increase, the drills will have to be gone through more sectionally than they are at present. It will be interesting to know if Volunteers, like the Brennan torpedo, can be made to present their own occasion arises, the component parts may be fitted together as a perfect whole.

Will nothing wake up the Jubilee Memorial Committee, or are they waiting for some munitions, to the of public, unknown but perhaps justifiable purpose of their own? Surely, we should have to go a long way indeed to find a representative body so absolutely indifferent to public opinion as this appears to be. They have been goaded at by the press and the people anytime this twelve months past, but to complaints and objections alike they seem to be stone deaf. Come, come, as "Traveler" says in effect, you have got our money, will you kindly return it when you are going to work with the Medical Department, you put something to justify the community in placing you where you are. Remember, honourable though your position be, you are only the agents of the general community.

'To finish or not to finish, that is the question?' and our local sanitarians have split themselves up into two camps over it. From the point of view of Dr. Barton and his supporters, lineal washing is ineffective as a plague preventative, while Dr. Clark and his following argue just the other way, when doctors disagree what is the more men to do? We are finally of opinion that a judicious and frequent use of the lineal wash is of the greatest use in producing hygienic results otherwise unobtainable, especially when we have to consider the filthy habits of the population with whom we have to deal, and are, therefore, with the lineal washers heart and soul. Perhaps, the use of antiseptics might be combined with it, but we should have to do the disinfecting and disinfecting for, if left to the Chinese, the work would otherwise be shirked. It is no time for debating, however, with the plague daily gaining ground. Have absolute cleanliness, if possible, and as we are not easily attainable, get as near to it as you can, and then to work with your chlorine of lime, sulphuric and carbolic acids, permanganate of potash or such other disinfectants as you may approve, only don't delay the work by angling over it.

The Medical Officer of Health is a very engaging man; if he expects to gain the much-needed assistance he requires. If it were a question of a new barracks, extension to the Naval Yard or anything else naval or military, permission would be readily granted by the Local and assisted by the House Governments, but the requirements of the civilian community, such as the Post Office, new Law Courts, and other things, including the assistance asked for by the overworked Medical Officer of Health, must wait. There is no hurry for them; they are not of paramount importance to Imperial interests, but are only a mere Colonial concern. This is about the hang of affairs, the Firm takes it.

The first step in Imperial Federation will have been taken by the passing of the Commonwealth Bill. It is a step gained in

Colonial representation, not a long one, it is true, but in the right direction. It is the introduction, for us hope, to more extended representation of Colonial interests in both houses of the British Parliament, when people who know something about the countries they represent will be able to teach the better legislators and compel attention by the sheer force of intimate knowledge. The working man will, in the future, cease to associate the booming with a strange animal or to identify the wallaby with a river.

The other night, at a Masonic function, when the toast of the Grand Master of Scotland was proposed, the pianist struck up 'The Land o' the Leal' and out of a company numbering some forty souls, not one seemed to have a very clear appreciation of what it was, until the domino-thump turned it into 'Auld Langsyne,' when it was a case of let her go Galloway.

THE DUTIES OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

PROPOSAL TO APPOINT AN ASSISTANT.

Yesterday afternoon, at the meeting of the Sanitary Board—Mr Osborne proposed the following motion of which he had given notice:—That the Sanitary Board are unanimously of opinion that an Assistant Medical Officer of Health is urgently needed to do the duties and responsibilities of the Department are more than one Medical man can be reasonably expected to undertake. He said—In proposing the resolution which stands in my name, it is unnecessary to add to what has already been written, and said on the subject except it be for the information of the members who were appointed to the Board subsequent to the meeting on 28th Oct. last. On that date the Board unanimously adopted the suggestion of the committee appointed to consider the questions of additions to the Sanitary staff, and one of those recommendations was the appointment of an Assistant Medical Officer of Health, a qualified medical man, whose whole time should be given to the work of the Sanitary Board and whose pay and position should be such as to attract a man worthy of carrying on the arduous duties now so fully fulfilled by Dr. Clark in the event of that gentleman's absence. The Government, however, did not assent to the Board's request. It must be evident to every member of the Board that the work done by Dr. Clark is of a nature which cannot in the interests of the colony be handed over to a feeble tenet, however able and energetic and willing that *tenet* may be. The myriads of legal points and the mass of Sanitary laws and by-laws which the Medical Officer of Health needs to travel through in his every day's work requires a man to be in constant touch with the subject, and this is not to be expected so with the coming into operation of the new Sanitary Properties Ordinance. There are many other reasons which could be urged in favour of the appointment, but I think, Sir, that on these grounds alone it is not right to recommend the matter again to the Government's favourable consideration.

Dr. Clark absolutely required an assistant and there was no doubt but the division of labour would be of special use at the present time when Dr. Clark was so much occupied with office work and attention to the details of the Ordinance.

Dr. Lawson supporting the motion said he had experience of Dr. Clark's work and he was of opinion that an extra man should be appointed.

Dr. Hartigan fully endorsed the necessity of having an Assistant Medical Officer of Health, but was strongly against his being mixed up with the medical department. It led to endless trouble before. It led to quarrels, quarrels, quarrels, and a deadlock last time to a certain extent.

Dr. Lawson said it was all very well for Dr. Hartigan to come there and rear about putting everything right and keep up what he might term his municipal ideas. He (Dr. Lawson) might mention him that although he was very liberal in his ideas he had had a little more experience of the Colony, especially in the medical time, than him. He thought there would be no harm in getting the assistant to work with the Medical Department. Dr. Hartigan had to pay for two men to do his own pocket it would come to be a different story. It was against all common sense.

Dr. Clark said he rose to order I don't think the Principal Civil Medical Officer is speaking to the point before us.

Dr. Lawson—May I continue, Mr. President?

The President (Hon. R. D. Ormsby). Yes. Are you not finished? (Laughter.)

Dr. Lawson—No, I was interrupted. Continuing Dr. Lawson said these were matters which wanted a lot of inquiry into, and surely the Government were the first people to know that they had got to inquire into those matters and he did not think that Dr. Hartigan, simply, because he had a quarrel with the Government, ought to throw money to the dogs.

The President said he was quite in sympathy with the Principal Civil Medical Officer. They had no right to dictate to the Government how they were to employ any officer they brought in from home.

The motion was then unanimously agreed to.

The President explained that in some cases he did not vote because his position was peculiar. He was a member of the Legislative Council and also President of the Sanitary Board and he did not think it necessary for him to commit himself in any way till the matter came before the Legislative Council.

Dr. Lawson—Sometimes it might be judicious for you as a member of the Legislative Council, to drop us an inkling as to how the wind is blowing. (Laughter.)

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CORRESPONDENCE.

THE QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY AND DRESSING SHIP.

To the Editor of the 'CHINA MAIL,' Hongkong, May 25.

Dear Sir, As viewed from the Peak

last night the forty merchant ships of all

Nations in port dressed ships in honour

of Her Majesty's Birthday with the exception

of three Japanese vessels and a Danish

Barquentine, presenting a very pleasing

picture. My object though, in writing you

Sir, is to show you the many different

ways in which the celebration for which

the ships were dressed. I believe there is

only one way in the Navies of the world

and that is to fly the national flag of the

country in which they are at anchor, and

with your own flag at the masthead.

As many other vessels, the ship is decorated

with flags. If this is correct, the only

unusually dressed ships yesterday were

the Russian, German, and the Danish

Thames, and the Italian and the Mexican

Boat. Each one flying the British

Ensign at all their masts.

The Japanese and the German flew

the Ensign at the main but with House

flag and Name flag at the fore respectively.

A 14th boat flew her Agent's flag at the

main with Ensign underneath and the fore

blue Peter with American flag below it.

Two Japanese Australian Liners carried

the British Ensign at the fore with Japanese

Ensign at main, while one four-masted

Japanese steamer, devoted her foremast

to the British Ensign, and Japanese flags at

main, mizzen and jigger masts.

Two Blue Funnel had owner's flag at main

and agent's flag at fore—no ensigns aloft at all.

A German steamer was dressed with

German flag and ensign at main.

A Chinese steamer had Chinese flag at

main and ensign at fore.

An Indo-China boat had American flag

at fore and ensign at main.

In most cases, however, ships flew

British flag at fore and ensign at main.

At night, I cannot describe the scene.

Can any of your nautically-inclined readers

tell me if there is not some generally un-

derstood rule for dressing in the Merchant

Service? The custom can't be dying out

as was shown by yesterday's grand display

of bunting.—Yours faithfully, YACHTSMAN.

THE GREAT FIRE AT OTTAWA.

PARTICULARS OF THE CONFLAGRATION.

London, April 27.—Further particulars

of the disastrous fire, which broke out at

Hill and Ottawa, in Canada, are to hand.

The fire is attributed to the explosion

of a boiler in the mill, which was blowing

steam, to show sympathy with the Boers.

There were three simultaneous outbreaks.

Firemen have been summoned from

Montreal, Toronto, and elsewhere, to assist

the local brigades, and the members of the

militia forces are helping to fight the

flames and protect property.

April 28.—Later reports show that the

conflagration had an accidental origin and

was not caused by Fenians as at first

stated.

The fire broke out at 11 o'clock in the

evening in a wood house in the lumber

district of Hill. The house was quickly

burnt down, and the hurricane which was

raging blew the five hundred southwards.

These embers caused the various outbreaks

in Ottawa, at first regarded as having in-

dependent origin. Soon the suspicion

arose that the fire was caused by a

bridge across the Ottawa River was ablaze.

Some Ottawa firemen working on the river-

side had their torches out off, for there

was no safe area by land from

where they were working. Two fire-

engines were sent to the scene.

The Earl of Minto, Governor-General

of Canada, was on the river. When the

escape of the fireman was intercepted he

shouted to them to jump into the river.

They did so, and the Earl being opposite

to where they were located, he, with others,

THE WAR.

THE PLAGUE IN LONDON.

An impression certainly exists among a section of the public that the Great Plague of London, 1665, is the only visitation of bubonic plague, of any importance from which England is known to have suffered. Some account of the outbreak previous to that time should therefore be of interest, especially as it will tend to prove that plague was for more than three centuries almost endemic in that city, owing to its badly constructed dwellings and filthy accumulations.

Old London, indeed, afforded in every way a suitable nidus for plague micro-organisms, the dwellings of its working classes being for the most part overcrowded, ill-ventilated, and filthy. Dr. Hodge, an eminent authority on the plague in Charles II.'s time, called it the "Black Death," because it stayed among the poorer classes; and it is recorded that the "Black Death," by which name this same bubonic plague was known in the reign of Edward III., chiefly confined its ravages to the working people, the rich escaping it by shutting themselves up in their castles. Erasmus, whose description fits a time between these two periods, says that in London houses the rushes with which the floors were strewn were piled the new upon the old for 20 years, and were fouled with spillings of beer, fragments of fish, expectorations, vomit, excrement, and filth. The city is low lying in situation, and its open drains were then the receptacle of every kind of filth. Cattle were butchered within its walls, and its overcrowded graveyards were a standing menace to the public health. A large number of the parish churchyards had been built over in Elizabeth's time, and in 1582 the Lord Mayor was in correspondence with the Lords of the Council with a view to limiting the large number of burials that were consequently taking place in St. Paul's Churchyard, and the state of the latter eventually became so gruesome that graves could scarcely be dug there without disturbing bodies previously interred. Dr. Edgar M. Crookshank, Professor of Comparative Pathology and Bacteriology and Fellow of King's College, London, informs us in his "Text-book of Bacteriology," published London, 1896, that the outbreak of plague in China in 1894 had all the symptoms of the bubonic pest of old London, and that "the disease was confined to the poorest classes, and the most overcrowded and most filthy localities."

The first recorded outbreak of bubonic plague in London was in the fourteenth century. During the dreadful and widespread visitation that occurred at that period, the "Epidemics of the Middle Ages" estimates that Europe lost 25 millions of people, or one-fourth of the population, and there still died in the metropolis more than half of her population of three or four million souls—a mortality which naturally caused great social upheavals. The first outbreak in England was in 1348, and reached London in November of that year. Its ravages in the metropolis were so fearful that the good Sir Walter Manny purchased 13 acres of land as a burial ground for the citizens, and there 50,000 plague victims were interred, in a spot which afterwards became the site of the Charterhouse. Finally lost in 1350, victims of her atrocious population, a less pest in excess of that at some other places but very remarkable, because in 1665 that year, being then the temporary seat of Parliament and in constant communication with London, finally escaped the plague, owing to good drainage and cleanliness at the latter time. This first outbreak in England lasted for nine years, and was succeeded in 1361 and 1369 by those known as the second and third plagues of Edward III.'s time. This bubonic pestilence was again in London in 1400, and in 1406, and in 1428, and England was probably never free from it, as there was a further visitation recorded in 1472 and the following years; and that of 1499-1500 caused Henry VII. to remove his Court from London to Windsor, and the pestilence was again in London in 1527-28.

In 1543 the Plague Orders of Henry VIII. were issued, substituting the sign of the Cross for the whips that had marked infected houses since the early years of the century, ordering that inmates of such houses should carry white rods in their hands as previously regulated, but that they should only leave their houses when necessary, and further ordering that all streets and lanes should be cleansed, and all straw from infected houses should be burnt in the fields. In 1571 the Lord Mayor had money upon us, were added to the cross placed on infected houses. In 1563-4 there was a great mortality—that in London reaching 1600 weekly—and the terrible system then commenced of shutting up all the inmates of infected houses for 40 days, by closing all doors and windows and allowing neither express nor ingress to anyone. This compulsory confinement of healthy people in infected houses naturally resulted in many being affected who might otherwise have escaped. In 1592 the Lord Mayor and aldermen initiated in London a system of notification of plague by constables and officers, who were empowered to search for cases, and in 1591 two honest and discreet women were specially appointed for that purpose. In 1599 the "Remembrance" records of London inform us, Lord Burghley warned the city: that plague had broken out in Lisbon, and a few days later the Lords of the Council reported the arrival of a ship from that port in the Thames and suggested the quarantine of ships arriving from ports supposed to be plague-infected or from Plymouth. The neglect of the city to carry out certain orders of the Lords of the Council was in 1591 and 1592 the cause of very sharp reproofs being addressed to them; in the latter years the Lords of the Council wrote that "the deaths were increasing, partly by negligence in not keeping the streets and other places about the city clean, and partly through not shutting up houses where sickness was found and setting marks upon them, but principally through not observing orders for prevention of the infection set them by the Council. Seeing that neither the fear of the putting to the rack, nor the absence of her Majesty, and her officers, caused them to have had better regard to their duty, her Majesty had directed the Council, in her name, expressly to command them to see that the former orders of the Council forthwith put in execution."

In 1582 a further letter from the same source expressed surprise that on hospital had been built outside the city or plague cases, although other cities of less antiquity, wealth, and reputation had provided themselves in

that way, whereby the lives of the inhabitants had been at all times chiefly preserved. The Lord Mayor does not seem to have replied to this last recommendation; but there are letters from the city to the Executive in 1582, stating that "the streets had been cleaned every second day" and that arrangements at the city gates of "clean" houses ready for occupation as chambers by the lawyers during Term. In winter time these outbreaks of plague used generally to abate, and people then flocked back to work.

There was a keen desire among the civic authorities of that time to suppress theatrical performances, "profane spectacles at the Theatre and Curtain"—and other popular shows, which they regarded apparently as being likely to call down "the wrath of God and the plague upon the city; than their own carelessness in neglecting to keep the city clean; and they lost no opportunity of stopping these performances when any chance of infection through them existed. The Lords of the Council, for honest recreation's sake," were inclined to favour such shows; a letter addressed by them to the city in November, 1581, refers to the fact that the performance of plays had been restrained in the summer, and proceeds to remark: "As the sickness had almost ceased, and as it was not likely to increase at this time of year, in order to relieve the poor players and to encourage their being in readiness with convenient matters for Her Highness's service this next Christmas, they requested them forthwith to suffer to practise such plays, in such sort, and in the usual place as they had been accustomed, having careful regard for the continuance of such order as had been before observed." In 1592 a book on the subject of the plague was published by Simon Kellway; in one chapter of which, touching what orders magistrates and rulers of cities and towns shall cause to be observed, he recommends that the streets should be watered and cleaned, that no houses and herbage should be allowed to rot in the streets, and that the clothes, bedding, &c., of the sick should be burned. Considerable interest attaches to the history of the plague in the sixteenth century owing to the numerous works of eminent physicians of that time, explaining the difference between the symptoms of plague and those of typhus, which first appeared in Europe at that time, and which the specific bacillus at present helps the investigations of bacteriologists.

There was such a terrible outbreak of plague in London that James I. delayed visiting his capital, where the death from plague amounted during the year to more than 50,000, and in 1600 there was another outbreak, carrying off more than 40,000 of the citizens. There was a great shortage in the water supply of London at about that time, and strongly enough many of the people objected to using the supply from the New River, when that fine sanitary addition to the city was completed in 1613. Citizens then had to pump the water from the old wells, which were in the pavements, fronting their houses in repair, an amusing incident in connection with this regulation being that the servant of a gentleman who had failed in doing his duty in this way was imprisoned because the Lord Mayor considered that the master was too good a man to be committed. In 1620 the Lords of the Council severely reprimanded the city for neglecting the streets during a three weeks' frost. In 1625 there was another fearful outbreak of plague, carrying off more than 25,000 people. In 1629 all meetings, stage plays, and assemblies were suppressed owing to the plague. Their is mention of a "pesthouse" at this time, and some idea of building a plague hospital similar to one then existing in Paris. It was a great relief to the city, and the King, Charles, and the Lords of the Council were consequently very determined that the city authorities should enforce the statutes of Edward VI. and Elizabeth, forbidding the use of flesh on fish days and the Eves, and the use of any kind of meat, except "very strange" to the King and the Council that so many good laws should be so much "contemned in every town, ordinary, &c., in the city and suburbs."

In 1643 the commissioners of Sewers and Highways, "Surveyors of the City," were directed to design a sewer "from Moorfields to the Minors and so to the Thames," to take the place of the open drain which had been the cause of great annoyance. Another outbreak of plague, however, commenced in London with more than 10,000 deaths in 1646, and lasted until 1647; and it is evident that the sanitary improvements of the time were altogether insufficient to free London from the ravages of her ancient enemy, the bills of mortality from 1693 to 1697 showing only five "clean" years. The "Great Plague" of 1665 is believed to have carried off about 100,000 persons of an estimated population of 400,000, half of which, however, had fled from the city during the outbreak: the actual record of mortality, which is 68,595 deaths, is admitted to be very much under the true number. Dr. Hodge informs us that there was no title regard for health or cleanliness in those days that round people slept in the beds of those who had died from plague before they were even washed and changed. He also states that the fumigation of infected houses and the use of quicklime. There was on a few sporadic cases of plague in London after the Great Plague of 1665. It was doubtless the selfish policy of the municipal authorities that had preserved until the many of the accumulated filth, which the fire removed; and concerning which Thomas Pennant wrote: "Great as the calamity was, yet it proved the providential means of putting a stop to one of the most tremendous plagues. The plague, which for a service of centuries had, with very short intervals, visited our capital in its most dreadful forms, never appeared there again after the rebuilding of the city in a more open and airy manner, which removed several nuisances which, if not the origin of a plague, were certainly one great auxiliary, when it had seized our streets."—*Sydney Morning Herald*.

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SIEMSEN & Co., Agents.

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It is the enjoyment of good health, and the system is regular, laxatives or other remedies are then not needed. It is all important, in order to get the best results, to use a remedy which is not only a purgative, but also a tonic, and which is so gentle and pleasant that it can be used by the most delicate and infirm.

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